PLAN forward

Lincoln–Lancaster County
2050 Comprehensive Plan

The Lincoln-Lancaster County 2050 Comprehensive Plan is a roadmap to "plan forward", not only in time, but in concept, to envision a community that is Livable, Equitable, Thriving, Resilient, and Innovative.

Goals

CITY of LINCOLN

LANCASTER COUNTY
EST. 1859

The PlanForward goals offer a broad horizon for the community's future to the year 2050. The goal statements, supporting text, and data form the basis for the desired future condition in Lincoln and Lancaster County to be Livable, Equitable, Thriving, Resilient, and Innovative. The goals also provide guidance for individual land use decisions, public and private investments, and other actions that collectively will determine the future for the people that live in Lincoln and Lancaster County. Every policy in PlanForward includes action steps that will support one or more of these goals. Most importantly, we will plan forward as One Community.



G1: Safe, Affordable and Accessible Housing

2.4



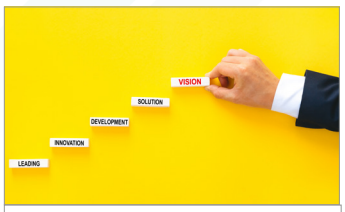
G2: Great Neighborhoods

2.6



G3: High-Quality Workforce

2.8



G4: Economic Opportunity

2.12



G5: Equity and Inclusion

2.14



G6: Healthy, Active and Connected People

2.22



G7: Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

2.26



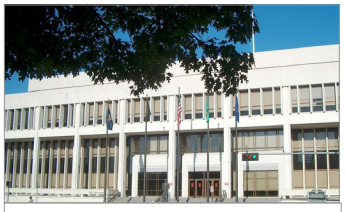
G8: Community Resiliency

2.28



G9: Civic Participation

2.30



G10: Effective Government

2.32



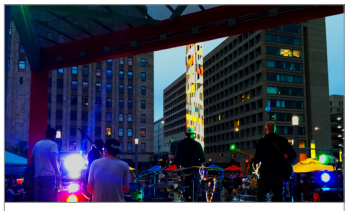
G11: Rural Environmental

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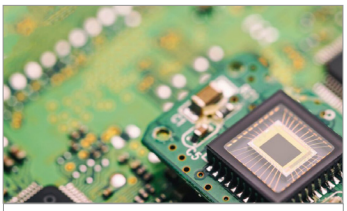
G12: History and Culture

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G13: Community Appearance

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G14: Technology

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G15: Transportation

2.42

G1: Safe, Affordable, and Accessible Housing

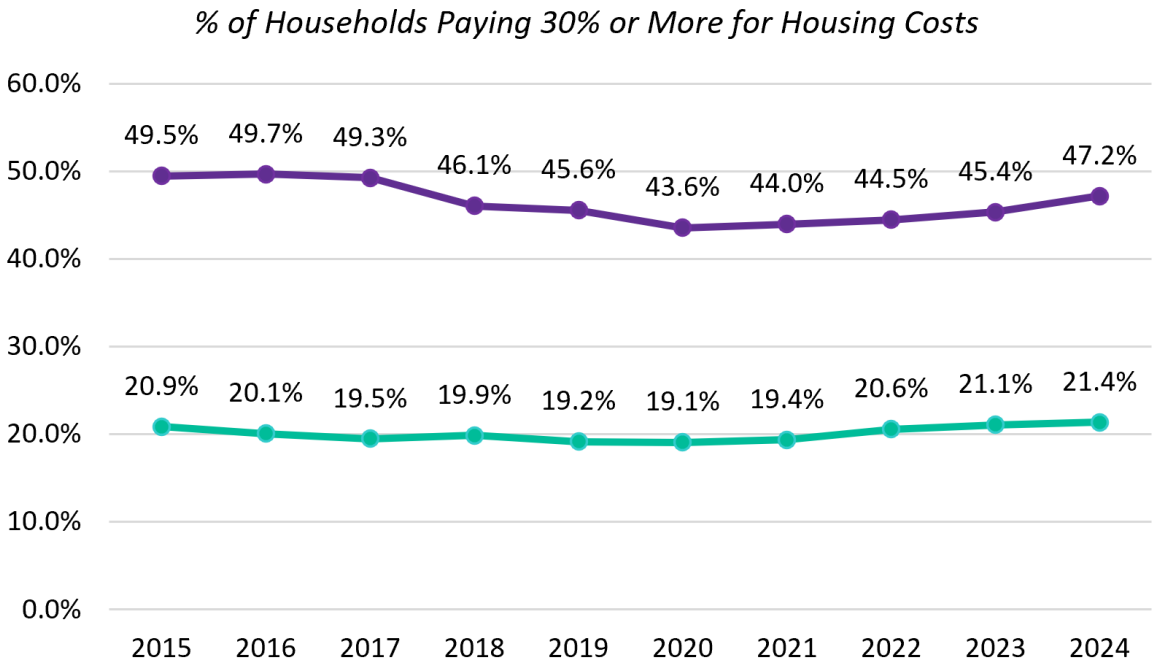
Lincoln and Lancaster County will support the development of safe, affordable, and accessible quality housing that meets the diverse needs of the community.



One of the essential elements of the community and PlanForward is housing. Ensuring safe, adequate, and affordable housing is an important function in maintaining the vitality of neighborhoods and the city as a whole. Our community supports making homes available to families that are both affordable and safe. Emerging scientific evidence links health outcomes such as asthma, lead poisoning, and unintentional injuries to substandard housing. Resources to provide enhanced access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing should be distributed equitably across the community in order to help promote good physical and mental health and foster economic stability.

The federal Office of Housing and Urban Development defines cost burdened households as those paying more than 30% of income towards housing, and in Lincoln, those households making less than $25,000 per year are at most risk of being cost burdened. Although Lincoln's housing market is affordable for most households, housing costs continue to increase and should be addressed proactively. PlanForward understands the ongoing need for affordable housing and supports development of 5,000 affordable units by the year 2030. There were 3,201 affordable units constructed,rehabilitated, or subsidized between 2020 and the end of FY 2024/25, which is ahead of schedule for reaching the City's goal of 5,000 new affordable units by 2030.

Figure G1.a: Cost Burdened Households in Lincoln



American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

The City of Lincoln adopted the *Affordable Housing Coordinated Action Plan* in December 2020. This plan seeks to support the development of a housing market in Lincoln that is reflective of the diverse community of residents that makes up the city. The action items identified in the Affordable Housing Coordinated Action Plan attempt to address quality of life issues and improve the overall economic health in Lincoln and more importantly, protecting and advancing the health, safety, economic opportunity, and quality of life of every resident. This means creating housing options for all income levels and ages throughout the city. While the main focus of this plan is on how to address housing needs for the city's residents earning less than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), no one market stands in isolation. Markets are interdependent on each other, whether that is different income levels or product types. A healthy housing market allows individuals to move through the market at different stages of life. When the market does not supply the product type a household needs, there can be a break in the system that can affect many different households.

PlanForward outlines a plan for adequate growth areas and lot supply, but other market forces can impact the overall cost of housing. Those outside influences should be acknowledged and monitored. Over the past decade, the city's housing construction has focused on market rate multi-family and single-family detached units. Only 16% of the city's 19,000 units constructed between 2016 and 2025 were townhomes or duplexes, and the vast majority of the multi-family were large scale projects. Additional variety, also known as “missing middle,” is needed to serve a broader demand within the City.

The City supports several initiatives to ensure that affordable housing is also safe and high-quality housing.

The federally funded Housing Rehabilitation Program offers 0% interest loans to help low- and moderate-income homeowners repair and improve their homes. The program is administered locally by the Urban Development Department.

The Lead Safe Lincoln Program works to prevent and reduce lead exposure for children and families in the community. Its activities include testing children for lead, evaluating exposure risks, removing lead hazards from homes, and replacing lead water service lines.

The Lead Hazard Control Grant Program provides assistance to property owners to eliminate or stabilize lead-based paint hazards and other sources of lead within homes. The Healthy Homes Grant Program offers financial support for repairs that address health and safety issues. Eligible hazards include mold, radon, electrical concerns, roof deterioration, and climate-control problems.

Policies Related to this Goal

P1: Housing Affordability

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P7: Redevelopment Incentives

P61: Industrial Zoning and Pipelines

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Housing Indicators

G2: Great Neighborhoods



Lincoln and Lancaster County will support great neighborhoods within both developing and redeveloping areas of Lincoln.

A great neighborhood is one where residents are able to get the goods and services to meet daily needs within close proximity to their residence including a variety of housing options, grocery stores and other commercial services, quality public schools, public open spaces and recreational facilities, affordable active transportation options, and civic amenities. In other words, Great neighborhoods "*Put the stuff closer together so it's easier to get to the stuff*."- Paul Mogush, Minneapolis Planner.

Housing variety, both in housing type and lot size, provides for interesting neighborhoods and accommodates changing household preferences, but, more importantly, provides affordable housing options. Housing variety should include townhomes, senior living facilities, low/no maintenance condominiums, accessory dwelling units, multi-family development, and even small lot single-family.

Great neighborhoods are an important part of urban life for many reasons including: support for healthier lifestyles and convenience, stronger markets for neighborhood commercial centers and businesses, efficient and equitable public investment, and energy efficiency and emissions reduction.

Downtown Lincoln is a good example of a great neighborhood in Lincoln as it serves as an attractive place to live and is the central location for commerce, government, entertainment, and the arts. The growth and development policies embodied throughout PlanForward will meet development needs for a growing population, will align with the 2050 growth scenario, and will support more great neighborhoods both on the edge and within the existing city.

Policies Related to this Goal

P1: Housing Affordability

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P6: Nodes and Corridors

P8: Infill and Redevelopment

P10: Supporting Small Businesses

P13: Commercial and Industrial Centers

P14: Commercial Infill

P29: Neighborhood Parks

P34: Urban Design Standards

P45: Early Childhood Care and Education

P60: Technology

P61: Industrial Zoning and Pipelines

P69: Transit

P70: Active Transportation

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Housing Indicators

Recreation Indicators

G3: High-Quality Workforce

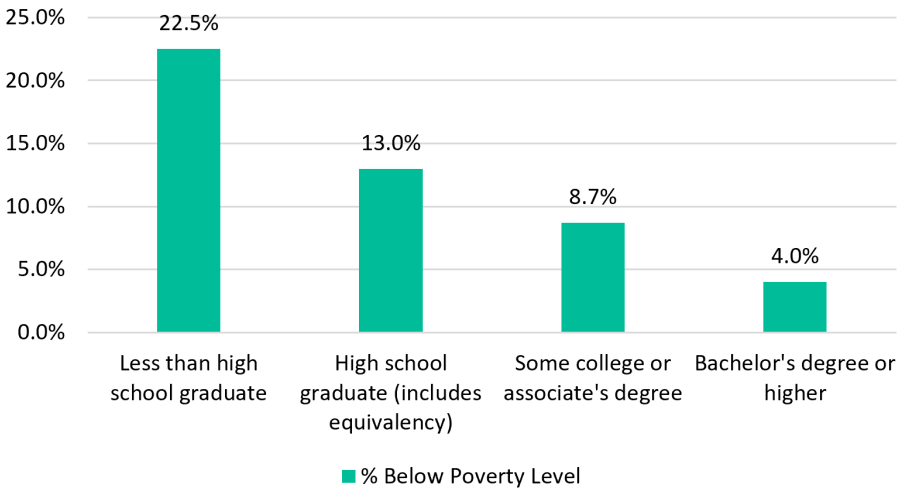


Lincoln and Lancaster County will strive to remove barriers to economic stability and mobility in the community by supporting a skilled and educated workforce that is able to adapt to economic, technological, and cultural changes.

The benefits of a high-quality workforce are twofold: 1) it is important that residents from diverse backgrounds have the opportunity to acquire the education and skills necessary to obtain quality jobs, and 2) it is important for business owners and entrepreneurs to have access to a high-quality workforce so that they can sustain and grow their businesses. A high-quality workforce benefits the entire community because it attracts quality employers and entrepreneurs, growing our population and tax base, supporting investments that enhance the quality of life across a variety of sectors, and positioning Lincoln and Lancaster County to compete successfully in the economy of today and tomorrow.

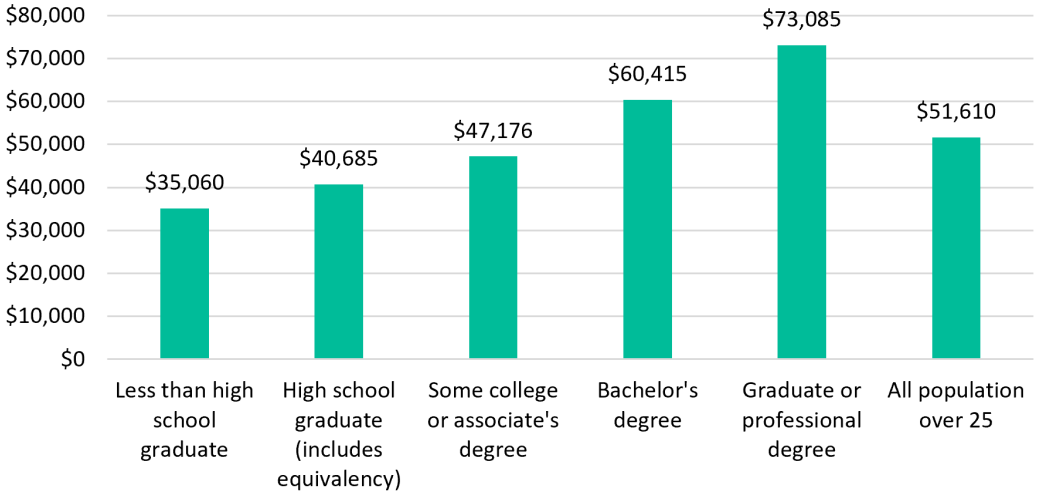
There is a strong connection between educational attainment and poverty status. In Lancaster County, an individual who did not graduate from high school is five times as likely to be in poverty than someone with a 4-year or higher college degree. Likewise, median earnings increase with higher levels of educational attainment.

Figure G3.a: Poverty Status for Age 25 and Over, Lancaster County



American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

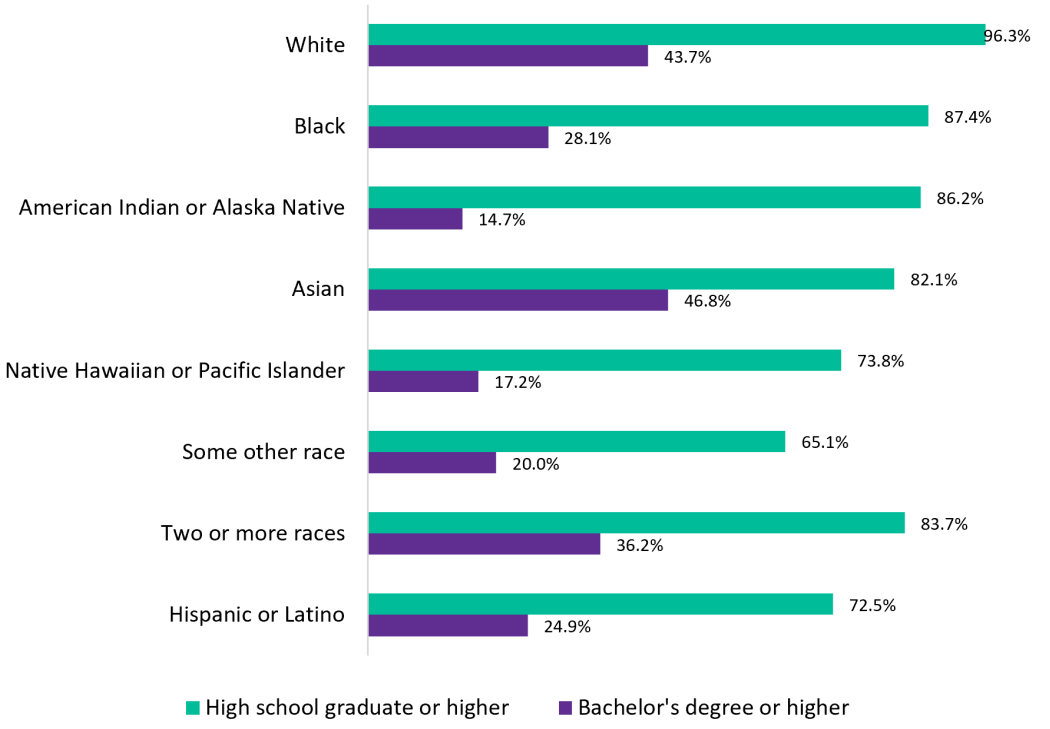
Figure G3.b: Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months, Lancaster County



American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Some groups disproportionately experience barriers to educational attainment, which is reflected in lower median incomes. These barriers to access start in youth and continue throughout a lifetime: a child not having a parent or adult present, or not having access to preschool education; an adult facing time and financial barriers to higher education and job training, often due to family obligations. At a national level these barriers are more prevalent in certain racial and ethnic groups, and this is illustrated locally by the race-based disparity in educational attainment, labor force participation, and median income in Lancaster County.

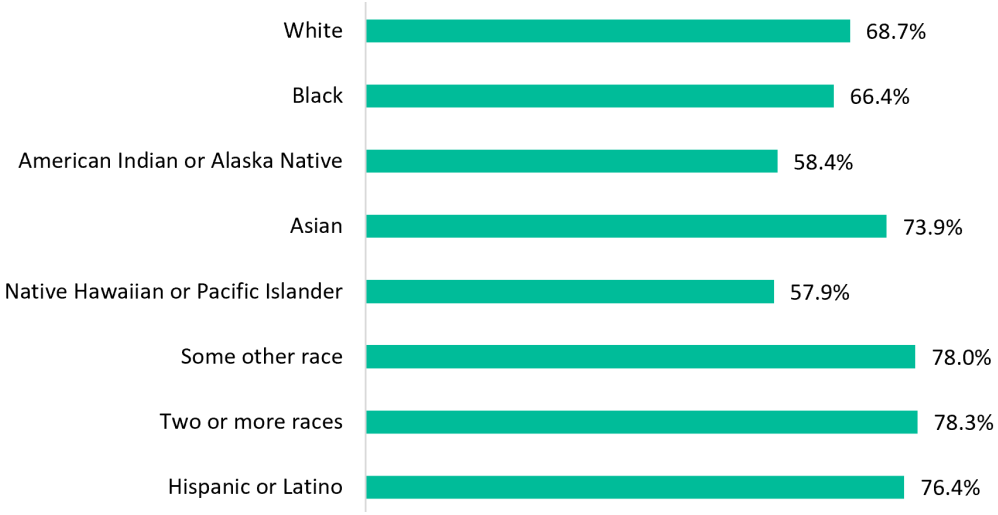
Figure G3.c: Race and Educational Attainment, Lancaster County



American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Another challenge to maintaining a high-quality workforce is ensuring that individuals who are displaced from work for a long period of time (for childbirth and the raising of children, recession or pandemic-related job loss, injury or disability, etc.) are able to re-enter the workforce. When people experience short-term unemployment, they go through real economic stress and temporary hardship, but most recover. Much more devastating is involuntary long-term unemployment. People may lose their house, spouse, confidence, and self-worth. Economist Gene Sperling describes this as a loss of "economic dignity" and many people never recover.

Figure G3.d: Labor Force Participation, Lancaster County



Note: In Lancaster County the overall labor force participation rate is 69.7 percent. This number includes individuals 16 and over who are actively working or seeking work. The local rate is similar to Nebraska's rate of 68.6 percent, and compares favorably to the national rate of 64.0 percent. *American Community Survey 2019 - 2024*

Labor force participation is also a challenge with individuals experiencing a disability. According to the American Community Survey approximately 11 percent of Lancaster County residents have a disability. Disabled individuals make up a much larger percentage of working age population not in the labor force (22 percent), meaning they are not actively seeking work. For those seeking work the unemployment rate for disabled individuals (7.4 percent) was more than twice as high as those without a disability (3 percent) in 2019.

Working on a local level to support and encourage workforce participation and secure employment can help to ensure that everyone wanting to participate in the workforce can do so.

There are additional barriers that could make it more difficult for the local workforce to secure high-quality jobs over the next 30 years. Some of today's jobs will become obsolete as new technologies and automation change the workforce needs, especially with entry-level positions. The skills required by employers will continue to change, and job training and education will continue to be an urgent priority so that individuals or even segments of entire generations are not left out.

To achieve the goal of a high-quality workforce, Lincoln and Lancaster County will focus on policies that ensure equitable access to education and training, emphasize partnerships between education providers, workforce development agencies, and local employers, and will work to address other economic barriers to achieving economic stability and mobility.

Policies Related to this Goal

P1: Housing Affordability

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P6: Nodes and Corridors

P9: Skilled, Diverse, and Trained Workforce

P10: Supporting Small Businesses

P40: Libraries

P43: Health Care Access

P44: Education

P45: Early Childhood Care and Education

P60: Technology

P63: Transportation Access and Opportunity

P69: Transit

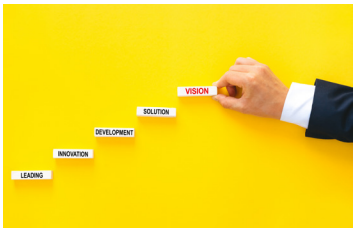
P70: Active Transportation

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Economy Indicators

G4: Economic Opportunity

Lincoln and Lancaster County will have high-quality jobs in an economic environment that supports business creation, innovation, and expansion.



A key element to a livable community - one that can attract and retain individuals to maintain population growth and economic prosperity - is the presence of high-quality jobs. Key attributes of a high-quality job include a living wage that can support a household's daily needs, benefits such as paid sick days and health insurance, and job security.

One factor in developing high-quality jobs is having a talented workforce. Where skilled labor chooses to live is increasingly a key decision factor for business growth and relocation. Although teleworking has been more prevalent in recent years, it is expected that most employees will still live in the same community as their employer.

Equitable skills and training initiatives, discussed in the High-Quality Workforce goal, will ensure that Lincoln and Lancaster County have a strong supply of talented workers. Quality-of-life attributes, such as diverse and accessible housing, good shopping, restaurants and entertainment, quality schools and healthcare, a sense of safety, and amenities such as parks and trails are important to ensuring that skilled individuals want to remain or relocate to our community.

In addition to cultivating a talented workforce, it is important to have an economic environment that supports business creation, innovation, and expansion. Elements that contribute to a successful economic environment include:

- Skilled and educated workforce, including tradespeople
- Strong partnerships between educational institutions, major employers, and other workforce resources such as the American Job Center
- Site and infrastructure availability
- Clear and consistent development regulations with a streamlined review process
- Financial incentives, such as Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and technical assistance with grant opportunities

Policies Related to this Goal

P1: Housing Affordability

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P6: Nodes and Corridors

P7: Redevelopment Incentives

P9: Skilled, Diverse, and Trained Workforce

P10: Supporting Small Businesses

P11: Parking Requirements

P12: Economic Growth

P13: Commercial and Industrial Centers

P14: Commercial Infill

P15: Infrastructure and Economic Development

P16: Rural Economy

P17: Predictability

P68: Transportation and Economic Health

P72: Freight

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Economy Indicators

G5: Equity and Inclusion



Lincoln and Lancaster County will establish equity - regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, country of origin, religion, age, economic status, or zip code - as a core principle in the planning, decision-making, and policy development processes.

Acknowledging disparities that exist in our community is vital in order to properly discuss equity as a core principle of PlanForward. We also acknowledge in this plan that there are ongoing work efforts which are moving us in the right direction toward eliminating disparities. Under this goal and others in PlanForward, we identified local trends that relate to measurable aspects that focus on race and ethnicity disparities within housing, income, poverty, juvenile justice, educational attainment, labor force participation, and health. In 2020, the total percent of minorities living in Lancaster County was 20.5%. It is anticipated by 2050, the total percent of minorities living in Lancaster County will be approximately 35.3% based on historic trends and growth projections.

In the 1930s, cities across the nation created redline maps to shore up and secure home loans for mostly white people. These redline maps were utilized so that realtors and mortgage lenders assisted in the practice of isolating minorities, specifically Black populations, in areas that would suffer lower levels of investment than their white counterparts. This practice created a racial disparity of homeownership and limited generational wealth among minority populations in two main ways. First, redlining was predatory exclusion where homes or loans could not be acquired within certain areas. Second, “reverse redlining” created predatory inclusion where non-white areas are targeted for higher prices and taxes, subprime loans, etc.

Redlining Practices

Redlining transformed explicit racism into structural racism that is still affecting our community today. In 1968, the Fair Housing Act was signed into law that established the protected classes of race, color, national origin, and religion, while sex was added in 1974 and familial status and disability were added in 1988. After the passage of the Fair Housing Act, there was no power among the federal authorities to enforce it. Much like the other laws, enforcement depended on local civil rights organizations to run the investigations, find evidence, find plaintiffs, etc. Even when evidence of discrimination was found, there was not any actual enforcement until 20 years later in 1988.

Lincoln was not immune to housing discrimination. A local look shows:

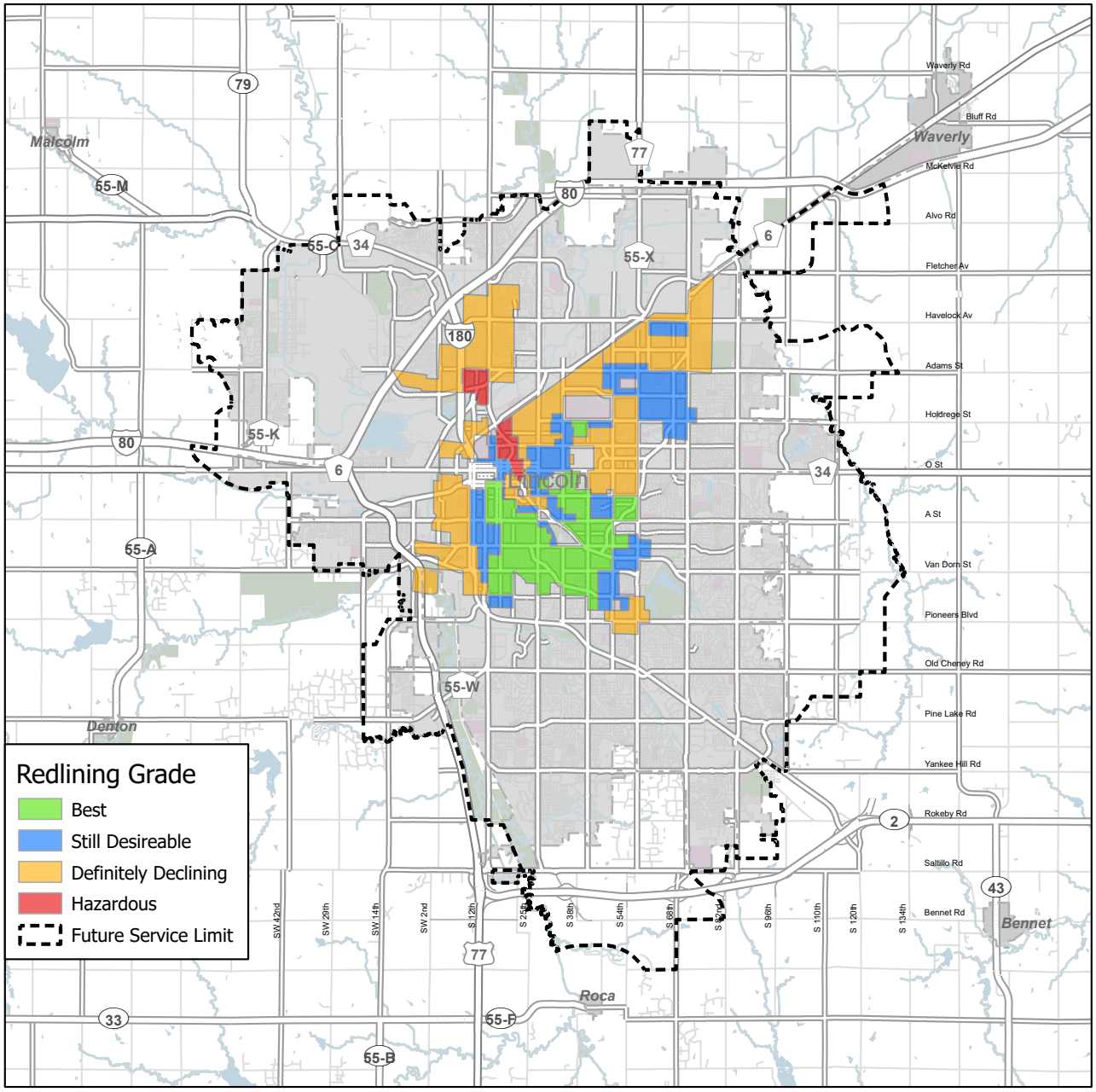
- In 1916, Sheridan Boulevard was the first area in Lincoln to introduce race restrictions, even before the redline map was introduced. Only “those of the Caucasian race” could purchase with the only exception for non-white residents being if the homebuyers had maids or servants that were black.
- In 1924, race clauses were introduced in the Piedmont area.
- In 1930s through 1950s, the Brownbilt area south of Randolph school also had race clauses. These purchase agreements banned the sale of properties to “Africans, Chinese, or Japanese.”

For most of these restrictions, the developers used federal funds from the Federal Housing Administration and Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC), that through deeds, prohibited anyone other than the white race. These covenants were generally in effect until 1975.

As mentioned before, in the 1930s, the government-sponsored HOLC introduced the private-sector to redlining when it produced color-coded maps of urban areas; black neighborhoods were marked in red, which indicated that they were the riskiest areas to insure mortgages. White residents received virtually all loans from the Federal Housing Administration between 1934 and 1962. Federal Housing Administration insurance would not back loans in the "Declining" or "Hazardous" areas. These areas were mostly, or solely populated by the black population. Thus, potential black homeowners could not get FHA backed loans to purchase or improve homes. The homes in these areas would thus fall into disrepair or would become totally dilapidated. The presence of just one black person could deem the area declining or hazardous.

When we review the redline map of the 1930s and recent minority population and poverty trends, we see almost 100 years later, it's the same map. The redlining effects of black and other people of color are still visible today. Knowing and understanding this exclusionary practice and its lingering effects is important to include in the Comprehensive Plan, so the community can have a conversation about issues that continue to plague our fellow community members and how we can work to promote equity in the community.

Figure G5.a: Lincoln "Redline" Map, 1933

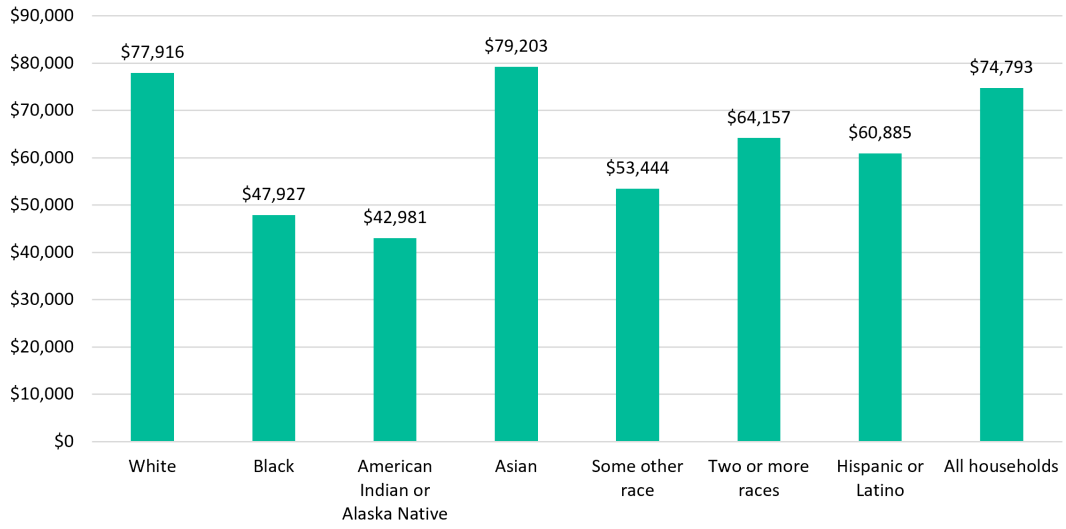


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Median Individual and Family Income

According to ACS data for Lancaster County, the median income for households is $74,793. As we examine income disparities in the community, we note that White (not Hispanic or Latino) households account for 82.8% of all households and earn a median income of $77,916. Asian households are also above the County median with a household income of $79,203, the highest of any racial or ethnic group. Households of all other racial and ethnic groups have median incomes below the overall County median.

Figure G5.b: Median Household Income, Lancaster County



American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Income disparities are also seen between gender of householder and familial status.

Table G5.a: Median Family Income, Lancaster County

Household Income	# of Households	Median Income
Families	78,277	$101,840
- With own children of householder under 18 years	34,832	$101,684
- With no children of householder under 18 years	43,445	$102,003
Married-couple families	60,777	$115,998
- With own children under 18 years	24,839	$125,540
Female householder, no spouse present	12,009	$47,621
- With own children under 18 years	6,914	$39,751
Male householder, no spouse present	5,491	$67,266
- With own children under 18 years	3,079	$63,651

American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Poverty Status

The disparity in incomes can be seen in the poverty status, which shows that 37,206 individuals are currently below the *2026 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia*. While a majority number of individuals below the poverty line identify as White, the percentages show that minority communities in Lancaster County are disproportionately affected by poverty.

Table G5.b: Poverty Status in Past 12 Months, Lancaster County

	Below poverty level	
	Population	**Percentage**
White	24,923	10.2%
Black	2,622	24.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	595	32.8%
Asian	1,493	11.0%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	33	13.6%
Some other race	1,050	14.1%
Two or more races	4,959	18.6%
Hispanic or Latino	5,005	18.9%
All	37,206	10.2%

American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Housing Tenure

Homeownership has provided housing stability and wealth development for residents in Lancaster County for generations. Approximately 63.1% of White households own their home, while less than 26.8% of Black families own their own homes and 38.0% of Hispanic or Latino families own their homes. While homeownership is something that should be attainable for individuals and families that desire to be homeowners, the availability of safe, affordable, and accessible housing is necessary for those who need or want to rent.

Table G5.c: Housing Tenure, Lancaster County

	Owner Occupied		Renter Occupied	
	Population	**Percentage**	**Population**	**Percentage**
White	70,060	63.1%	40,930	36.9%
Black	1,120	26.8%	3,052	73.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	238	33.2%	478	66.8%
Asian	2,520	49.4%	2,585	50.6%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	4	4.5%	85	95.5%
Some other race	719	26.9%	1,959	73.1%
Two or more races	3,108	41.0%	4,478	59.0%
Hispanic or Latino	3,355	38.0%	5,476	62.0%
All	79,065	58.9%	55,061	41.1%

American Community Survey 2019 - 2024

Juvenile Justice

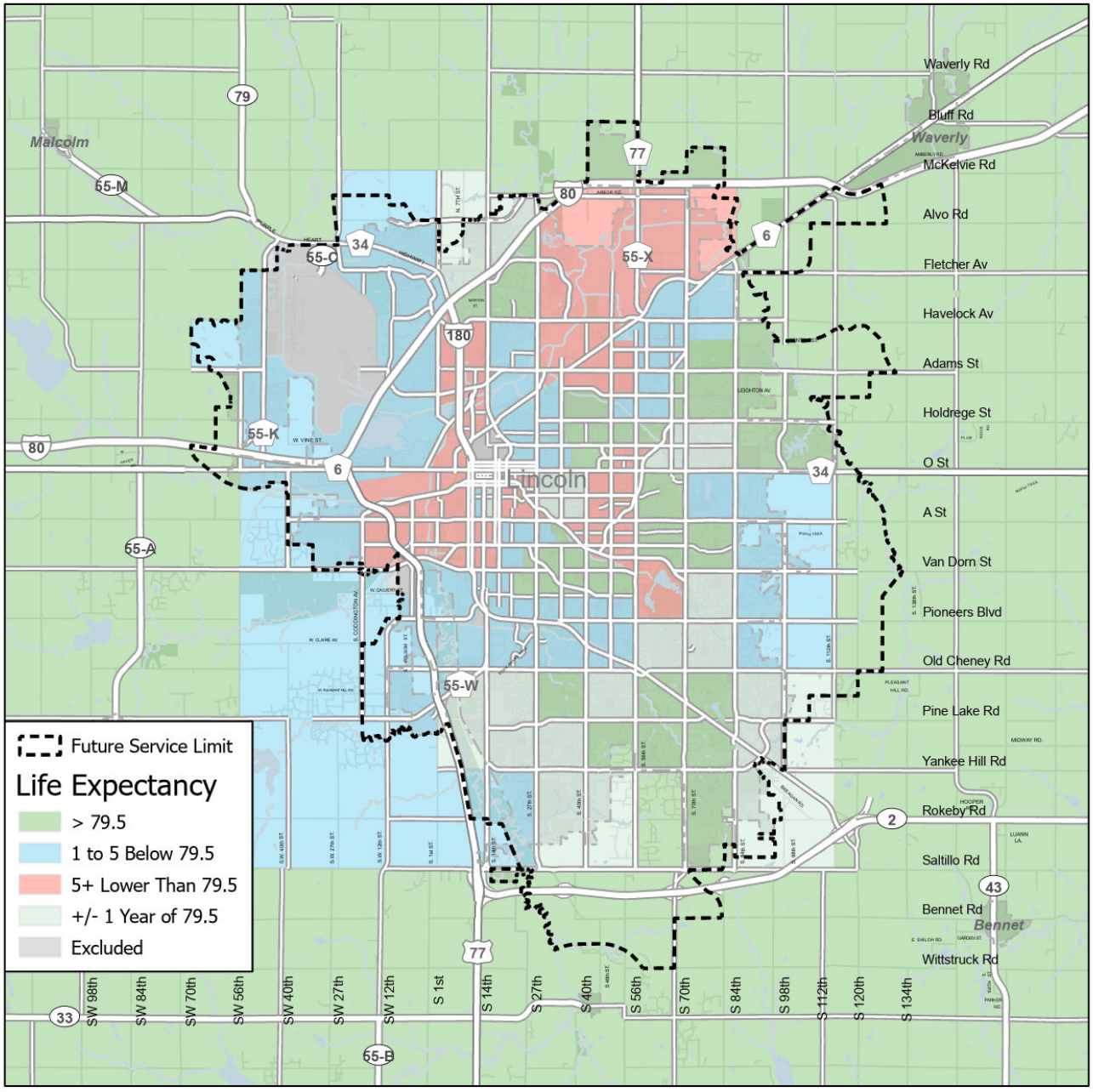
In 2017, Lancaster County signed on as a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) site. The JDAI Collaborative prepares a *Lancaster County Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Services Plan* which reviews data that traces individual youths' involvement with the juvenile justice system from initial contact through disposition and human service intervention. The disproportionality of non-white youth and families living in poverty, reduced educational attainment and medical care, and overall youth in the justice system, permeate our community as it does in so many others. The justice collaborative is focused on reducing disparities in the system, has developed a nationally recognized diversion program, committed to make every decision through a racially informed lens, and infuse restorative justice principles throughout all services.

Health Status

Health disparities are often looked at as differences in health status between the white population and racial/ethnic minorities; however, race and ethnicity, gender, age, disability, social and economic status, and geographic location all contribute to an individual's ability to achieve good health. The five domains of the *Social Determinants of Health* provide the framework that Public Health uses to discuss and address health disparities, including: Economic Disparity, Education Access and Quality, Healthcare Access and Quality, Neighborhood and Built Environment, and Social and Community Context. Lincoln's low cost of living does not offset lower incomes and persons from racial and ethnic minority populations struggle to achieve equity in educational attainment, employment, and income.

Lincoln has geographic concentrations of extreme poverty and poor health. Based on a resident's Census Tract, their projected life expectancy can differ by 20 years. In general, health outcomes in those older parts of Lincoln are not as good as elsewhere in the community. Death rates by disease vary across the community as do obesity rates in schools, behaviors such as smoking and binge drinking, uninsured rates, and a host of maternal and child health measures. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department in conjunction with the community's hospital systems and other public health partners, conducts a comprehensive Health Status Assessment and broad engagement of health discussions across the community. The resulting planning documents are the Community Health Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan which drive much of the ongoing strategic focus to improve health outcomes. Additionally, the LLCHD provides mapping and narrative utilized by community partners to further discussion of health disparities and their inequitable distribution throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County. Indicators around health, activity, and connected people for the 2050 Comprehensive Plan are guided by the LLCHD's 2024 Community Health Assessment and the 2025 Community Health Improvement Plan.

Figure G5.c: Life Expectancy



Life expectancy data source: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

An idea to assist people in need was discussed during development of PlanForward, known as a Navigation Hub. This would be a universal intake for multiple services to eliminate the redundancy of paperwork and eliminate barriers to accessing resources for individuals and families. This idea would need additional discussion with appropriate government agencies, non-profits, and services providers.

PlanForward's goals and policies take into account the historic and current racial and social inequities in our community. By intentionally incorporating a lens of racial equity into all policy decisions, identifying how our decisions may unintentionally reinforce racial disparities, our community can better understand and eliminate these disparities and create a more equitable community for every resident.

Policies Related to this Goal

P1: Housing Affordability

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P6: Nodes and Corridors

P9: Skilled, Diverse, and Trained Workforce

P22: Local Food

P40: Libraries

P42: Law Enforcement

P43: Health Care Access

P44: Education

P45: Early Childhood Care and Education

P47: Civic Participation

P60: Technology

P61: Industrial Zoning and Pipelines

P63: Transportation Access and Opportunity

P65: Complete Streets

P69: Transit

P70: Active Transportation

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Economy Indicators

Housing Indicators

Transportation Indicators

Recreation Indicators

G6: Healthy, Active, and Connected People

Lincoln and Lancaster County will be a healthy community that continuously creates and improves both its physical and social environments where every person is free to make choices amid a variety of healthy, available, accessible, and affordable options.



The interaction between people and their environments, natural as well as human-made, has re-emerged as a major public health issue. A community that encourages healthy, active, and connected people is one that continuously creates and improves both its physical and social environments. Examining the interaction between health and the environment requires considering the effects of factors in the broad physical and social environments, which include housing, access to community facilities and resources, land use, transportation, industry, workforce development, and agriculture.

Making the healthy choice the easy choice is one way to help people achieve optimal health.This can be accomplished in many ways such as: working with schools and businesses on wellness initiatives; improving local access to healthy foods and creating community gardens; creating a community plan to account for health impacts of new community projects; continuing to implement the Complete Streets program to encourage active transportation; and creating community gardens.

As a public health function, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department serves as a chief health strategist to strengthen, support, and mobilize community partnerships to improve the health of the community. Data on vital statistics, behaviors, communicable disease and other indicators of health status is compiled in the Community Health Assessment and includes the participation of partners such as Bryan Health Systems and CHI St. Elizabeth, Nebraska Hospital Association, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, and others. The assessment includes detailed information about the health of our community, including geographic health disparities. The Lincoln Community Health Endowment's Place Matters project has utilized such maps to answer the question, "How does where we live, learn, work, and play affect our health?" The maps, which can be accessed through the Community Health Endowment website, show that health disparities are not geographically distributed equitably throughout the community. Continued implementation of the CHIP recommendations is an important element to ensuring a healthy, active, and connected community.

The *Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)* is developed based on and in conjunction with the Community Health Assessment. The CHIP includes goals, objectives, and strategies organized within three priority areas: access to care, suicide prevention, and addressing depression. The CHIP is a guiding document to address these community health needs. Continued implementation of the CHIP recommendations is an important element to ensuring a healthy, active, and connected community.

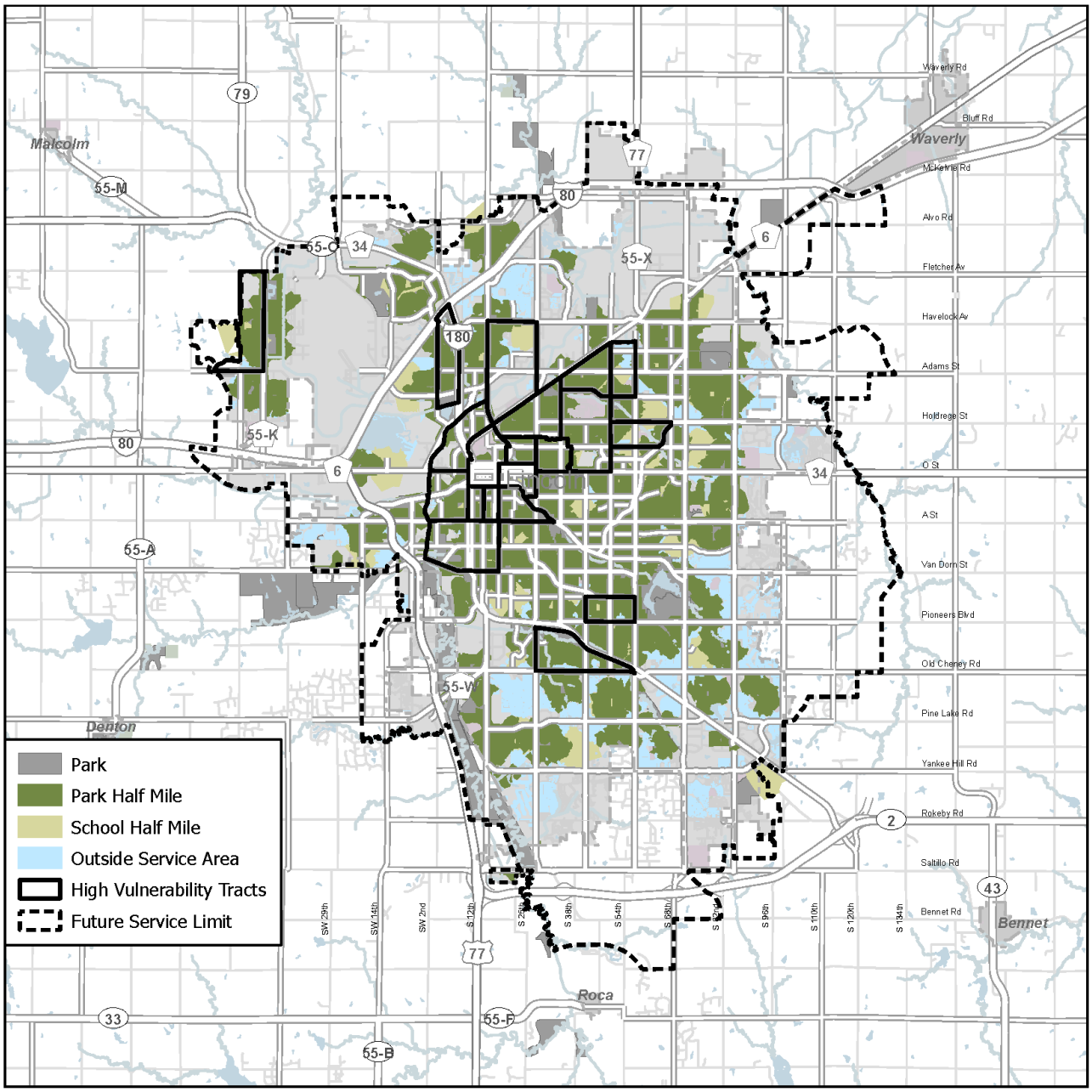
The *Lincoln Age-Friendly Community Three-Year Action Plan* was adopted in 2026. Lincoln is experiencing a rapid increase in its aging population. The number of residents age 65 and older is projected to double from 31,000 in 2010 to 61,000 by 2030, with continued growth in the decades ahead. This demographic shift creates both opportunity and urgency. The Lincoln Age-Friendly Community Three-Year Action Plan establishes a focused, data-driven roadmap.

Guided by community input and local data, the City has prioritized three domains for concentrated action: Communication and Information, Transportation, and Housing. These priorities reflect the areas where targeted investment and coordination can produce meaningful improvements in daily life.

- Communication and Information focuses on expanding digital literacy, strengthening Aging Partners as a trusted point of connection, improving coordination among service providers, and reducing barriers that limit social participation.
- Transportation focuses on increasing awareness and comfort with public transit, incorporating age-friendly considerations into route planning and bus stop design, and improving access to community events and services for non-drivers.
- Housing focuses on assessing high-impact, cost-effective design features for aging in place, advocating for policy and funding improvements, expanding incentives for age-friendly development, and addressing barriers within zoning and building codes.

Inequities in access to recreation and open spaces contribute to health disparities. The map below identifies the most vulnerable populations (percentage below poverty level; racial and ethnic minority population; life expectancy; and the percentage that passed the Youth Fitness Test) and evaluate access by a 10 minute walk to parks and schools that provide recreational opportunities. Lincoln's Community Centers and Amenities (public, non-profit, or for profit services) show opportunities for physical and emotional well-being and are mostly concentrated in the areas with the highest need. The map identifies residential units outside of the 10 minute walk in areas with vulnerable populations that should be addressed. There are also underserved/non-served residents in newer growth areas. It is important to note that while the costs for land and development of park facilities have grown since impact fees were first instituted, these fees have not increased to match inflation, creating a backlog of Neighborhood Park development. Funding for other park facilities has also been unable to keep up with inflation rates, creating a backlog of maintenance. This map does not reflect private rec facilities within apartment complexes or other private residential uses.

Figure G6.a: Parks and Recreational Facilities



Vulnerability and service area data source: Parks and Recreation Department

While over 98 percent of Lincoln residents are within one mile of accessing a trail, there are still inequities in the trail network. For example, there are instances where there are no connections into the trail system as a whole, leaving it inaccessible for residents who have concerns about on-street biking for commuting or for those who would like to ride recreationally through the community. Connecting these gaps should be prioritized over the planning horizon to create a more equitable trail network.

Sidepaths are separated paths along roadways that serve people bicycling and walking within the street right-of-way. Examples may include the 84th Street Trail and the Old Cheney Trail. Development of sidepaths should be placed further from the street to provide a comfortable buffer of grass and street trees between vehicular traffic and bicycle and pedestrians. Sidepaths may present increased conflicts with motor vehicles at driveways and intersections. Increased safety measures should be evaluated for these facility types to protect vulnerable road users.

Policies Related to this Goal

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P3: Developing Neighborhoods

P18: Conservation Design

P22: Local Food

P23: Salt Valley Greenway and Connecting Green Corridors Concept Implementation

P25: Open Space with Development

P26: Community Forestry Management

P27: Regional Parks and Tournament Facilities

P28: Community Parks

P29: Neighborhood Parks

P30: Recreation Centers / Community Learning Centers

P31: Aquatic Facilities

P32: Other Recreational Facilities and Activities

P33: Parks and Recreation Partnerships

P39: Community Space

P43: Health Care Access

P65: Complete Streets

P70: Active Transportation

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

Economy Indicators

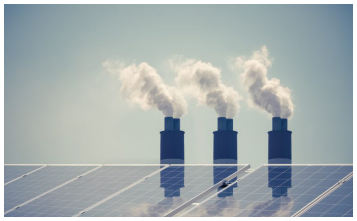
Housing Indicators

Transportation Indicators

Recreation Indicators

G7: Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

Lincoln and Lancaster County will embrace a strategic approach to growth and development that minimizes environmental harm, safeguards natural resources, and protects the health, safety and livelihoods of all residents.



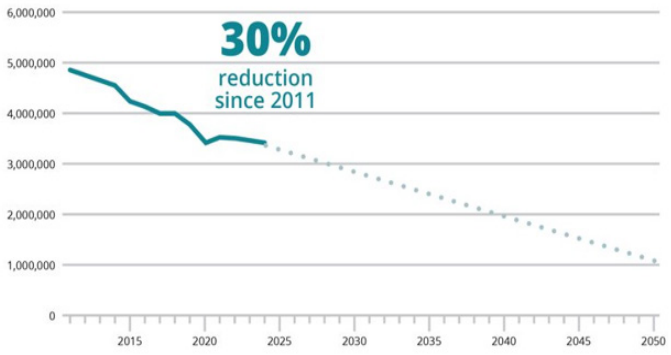
Lincoln's *Climate Action Plan* adopts a goal to reduce emissions 80% by 2050 and to make the community more resilient to climate change. Since 2011, Lincoln's greenhouse gas emissions have fallen by 30%. Lincoln Electric System, the City of Lincoln's municipal electric utility, is a key partner in working toward these goals.

In addition to energy and greenhouse gas emissions, the Climate Action Plan outlines steps to implement more sustainable solutions across a breadth of sectors, including transportation, land use, materials and resource management, local food, climate resilience, natural systems, and economic development.

In 2026, Lincoln achieved a Platinum rating from the LEED for Cities certification program, becoming only the tenth U.S. city to achieve this level under the current rating system. The Platinum rating also provides a strong basis in which to make even greater advances in years to come.

Municipal land-use policies can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by steering development toward compact, walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods. In these areas, residents can reach jobs, schools, shopping, and services by walking, biking, or using public transportation instead of driving. This concept is further explained in E1: Great Neighborhoods and Housing.

Figure G7.a: Lincoln's Greenhouse Gas Reductions



Lincoln Electric System

Cities can further cut emissions by supporting infill development and redevelopment, preserving forests, wetlands, farmland, and other carbon-storing natural areas, and discouraging sprawl that increases vehicle miles traveled and infrastructure costs. This concept is further explained in the Growth Framework and E2: Infill and Redevelopment.

Zoning and building codes can also promote energy-efficient buildings, renewable energy installations, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and transit-oriented development.

Integrating these strategies into the community's guiding documents, incentives, and regulatory framework can result in lower transportation and building emissions, protect natural carbon sinks, reduce costs, and create healthier, more sustainable communities.

Environmental stewardship can create economic opportunity for Lincoln. Investments in clean energy, resilient infrastructure and efficient buildings generate local jobs and lower long-term costs for residents and City government

alike. Coordinated action with Lincoln Electric System and other partners positions Lincoln to grow sustainably while keeping utility costs predictable for households and businesses.

Achieving this goal requires sustained collaboration between the City, the County, and the broader community. As Lincoln and Lancaster County grow, this goal commits the community to managing that growth, so it does not come at the expense of the natural resources and systems residents depend on, nor at the expense of future generations. The Climate Action Plan will guide the specific steps needed to carry this commitment forward in the years ahead.

Policies Related to this Goal

P18: Conservation Design

P19: Native Prairie

P20: Ecology and Habitat

P21: Floodplains and Riparian Areas

P22: Local Food

P23: Salt Valley Greenway and Connecting Green Corridors Concept Implementation

P24: Environmental Resource Protection

P25: Open Space with Development

P26: Community Forestry Management

P48: Renewable Energy

P49: Conservation of Energy

P50: Water Quantity and Quality

P51: Groundwater

P54: Wastewater Resource Recovery Facilities

P55: Watershed Planning

P58: Waste Reduction

P59: Electric Utility

P64: Transportation and the Future

P65: Complete Streets

P69: Transit

P70: Active Transportation

P73: Advanced Mobility

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

Environment Indicators

Recreation Indicators

G8: Community Resiliency



Lincoln and Lancaster County will be resilient to the climate hazards they will face.

Lincoln's climate is changing, and the community will feel that shift in the decades ahead. Making our community more resilient to climate change is one of the main goals of *Lincoln's Climate Action Plan* and a key consideration for City and County leaders as they approach the growth of the community.

Average temperatures in Lincoln are projected to rise from 63°F today to 67°F by mid-century, and the number of days each year with dangerous heat conditions is expected to grow substantially, from three days today to 26 by mid-century. The increase in extreme heat days could lead to an increase in residents experiencing heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke. Those who may be particularly vulnerable include infants, young children, pregnant people, older adults; people with disabilities or certain health conditions; and people who work outdoors (or indoors with limited to no air conditioning). Factors that may increase risk include high levels of humidity, drug or alcohol use, and dehydration.



Cold extremes will become less frequent, with the number of days below freezing dropping from 135 to 106 per year, easing winter heating demand while summer cooling needs increase. This increased demand for air conditioning may place additional strain on electricity resources.

Rainfall patterns will shift too: summers and winters are projected to grow wetter, springs slightly drier, and heavy rain events more frequent, particularly during spring and winter, raising the risk of flooding and added strain on stormwater systems.

Other important climate-related hazards that Lincoln could experience include severe drought and stress on water supplies; increasing destructive wind events; food insecurity from supply chain disruptions or extreme weather events; and poor air quality from distant wildfires.

These changes will not arrive as a single dramatic event but as a gradual reshaping of the conditions Lincoln has long planned around. Approaching future growth and development with these shifts in mind, rather than treating past climate patterns as a reliable guide, will help Lincoln protect residents' health and safety, safeguard infrastructure, and support a community equipped to thrive under the conditions ahead.

Municipal land use policies can strengthen a community's resilience to climate change by guiding growth in ways that reduce exposure to flooding, extreme heat, and other climate-related hazards. Protecting natural areas and expanding green infrastructure can help moderate temperature, manage stormwater, and support overall environmental health.

Updated planning and development practices can incorporate future climate conditions, ensuring that new growth is better prepared for more frequent and severe weather events.

By integrating climate considerations into long-term planning, zoning, and infrastructure decisions, communities can protect residents and property, reduce future costs, and build a safer, healthier, and more resilient future.

Policies Related to this Goal

P18: Conservation Design

P19: Native Prairie

P20: Ecology and Habitat

P21: Floodplains and Riparian Areas

P22: Local Food

P23: Salt Valley Greenway and Connecting Green Corridors Concept Implementation

P24: Environmental Resource Protection

P48: Renewable Energy

P49: Conservation of Energy

P50: Water Quantity and Quality

P54: Wastewater Resource Recovery Facilities

P55: Watershed Planning

P59: Electric Utility

P64: Transportation and the Future

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G9: Civic Participation

Lincoln and Lancaster County recognize the need for an equitable civic process and community buy-in during the planning and decision-making processes.



The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County have long encouraged the public to participate in local government activities. Keeping people knowledgeable and involved in implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and other community initiatives is crucial to ensuring their ultimate success. It is important to give all members of the community a voice and the capacity to influence decisions.

A key element to allowing everyone to have a voice in the civic participation process is removing barriers that prevent some members of the community from being fully engaged.

Common barriers include:

- Time: Many residents do not have the time to attend public meetings and hearings. This can be due to work responsibilities, childcare, or a lack of timely transportation options.
- Language: Residents facing language barriers may have difficulty understanding material presented at meetings or distributed online or in print. This is especially true in projects involving the Planning Department because many common planning terms or abbreviations don't have direct translations into other languages. This also applies to acronyms and jargon.
- Lack of trust: There are some residents that have a general lack of trust with government processes. This lack of trust exists for a variety of reasons, but it is something that impedes collecting the full spectrum of input from the community.
- Lack of understanding: Local government processes can be complex and it can be difficult to know how and when to become involved. This is especially true for residents with international backgrounds.
- Accessibility: An individual with hearing, visual, or other physical or invisible impairment may have trouble accessing an in-person meeting site and reviewing written or recorded meeting materials.

To achieve the goal of equitable civic participation, Lincoln and Lancaster County will work to remove these barriers so that all members of the community can be informed and involved. Examples include exploring expanded online and virtual public input methods while maintaining the option for traditional in-person engagement events located throughout the community. Equitable civic participation will require broad efforts that reach the entire community while actively seeking engagement from historically underrepresented groups.

As part of the original PlanForward process, in 2020 and 2021 the Planning Department conducted several in-person and virtual events that collected input from hundreds of residents across the community. In addition, an Equity Subcommittee was established to discuss issues related to equity in the planning process and outcomes, and collect input from residents who are typically underrepresented in our processes. In 2025 and 2026 additional in-person and virtual events were conducted as part of the Comprehensive Plan update. These events helped to affirm assumptions already in the Comprehensive Plan and identify additional priorities. More information about the public input process can be found in the Introduction section of PlanForward.

Policies Related to this Goal

P40: Libraries

P46: Public Buildings

P47: Civic Participation

P60: Technology

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G10: Effective Government

Lincoln and Lancaster County will be responsive to community needs and provide efficient and reliable essential services to residents and taxpayers.



Lincoln and Lancaster County will focus on maintaining a sustainable tax base that continues to provide quality services to residents and businesses in an efficient and equitable manner. Fiscal decisions will continue to be data-driven and implemented through a public process that allows for transparency and citizen input. The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County promote the integration of information technology throughout the community by their use of technologies in the business of local government. This use of integrating technology will continue to deliver services efficiently and enhance the interaction with government.

A variety of activities contribute to the sustainable provision of efficient and reliable essential services:

- Implementing efficient growth practices that maximize utilization of existing infrastructure investments while reducing the need to invest in costly new infrastructure.
- Supporting economic development efforts, and incentives such as Tax Increment Financing (TIF), that grow the tax base.
- Leveraging external funding sources, such as Federal and State funds and public-private partnerships, along with grants, to maximize the utilization of local tax dollars.
- Maintaining a community with a high quality of life to attract investment from both residents and businesses.

Policies Related to this Goal

P7: Redevelopment Incentives

P12: Economic Growth

P15: Infrastructure and Economic Development

P16: Rural Economy

P17: Predictability

P33: Parks and Recreation Partnerships

P34: Urban Design Standards

P35: Entry Corridors

P37: Historic Preservation

P40: Libraries

P41: Fire and Rescue

P42: Law Enforcement

P46: Public Buildings

P47: Civic Participation

P50: Water Quantity and Quality

P52: Wastewater System

P53: Gravity Flow Collection System

P54: Water Resource Recovery Facilities

P56: Landfill

P60: Technology

P74: Transportation Partnerships

P76: Transportation Maintenance

P77: Transportation Funding

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G11: Rural Environment



Lincoln and Lancaster County will support a strong rural economy, with a focus on agriculture and other land uses, while preserving critical natural features and quality of life for county residents.

An important relationship exists between the urban, rural, and natural landscapes. Urban and rural development must maximize the use of land in order to preserve agriculture and other compatible industries, natural resources, and the overall rural environment.

Agriculture is the dominant land use in Lancaster County, accounting for roughly ¾ of the county's total land area. According to the 2022 USDA Census of Agriculture, Lancaster County has over 1,700 farms, with 95 percent of those being classified as "family owned". Total market value of farm products produced in Lancaster County was $264 million. It is important to maintain agriculture as the core element of Lancaster County's economy by supporting traditional agriculture along with emerging agricultural production methods.

The rural areas in Lancaster County are also appropriate locations for emerging energy production facilities such as wind turbines and solar farms. These industries are compatible with agricultural uses, support the community's sustainability initiatives, and have the potential to be major contributors to the local economy. Both the City and County zoning ordinances have been updated to address renewable energy production and ensure that their implementation is compatible with surrounding areas.

It is also important that critical natural features such as native prairie, wetlands, and riparian corridors are protected. Such features need to be valued and sustained as part of the overall planning process if they are to remain as vital parts of our ecosystem and natural heritage to be left for succeeding generations. The Climate Action Plan discusses these ideas in more detail. Although it is a City document, coordination with the County will be important to implementing many of the Climate Action Plan's initiatives.

Rural Lancaster County has approximately 30,000 residents living on a mix of farms and acreages. Demand remains for additional acreage development in rural areas. The Future Land Use plan currently includes area for about 25 years of additional acreage development, assuming demand remains steady.Additional acreage areas that may be added should be in appropriate locations in order to reserve land resources for efficient future urban development, agriculture, and the natural environment, while preserving the rural quality of life for existing and future residents.

Policies Related to this Goal

P4: Rural Housing

P16: Rural Economy

P19: Native Prairie

P20: Ecology and Habitat

P22: Local Food

P23: Salt Valley Greenway and Connecting Green Corridors Concept Implementation

P24: Environmental Resource Protection

P51: Groundwater

P55: Watershed Planning

P66: Transportation and Managing Growth

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

Economy Indicators

Housing Indicators

Environment Indicators

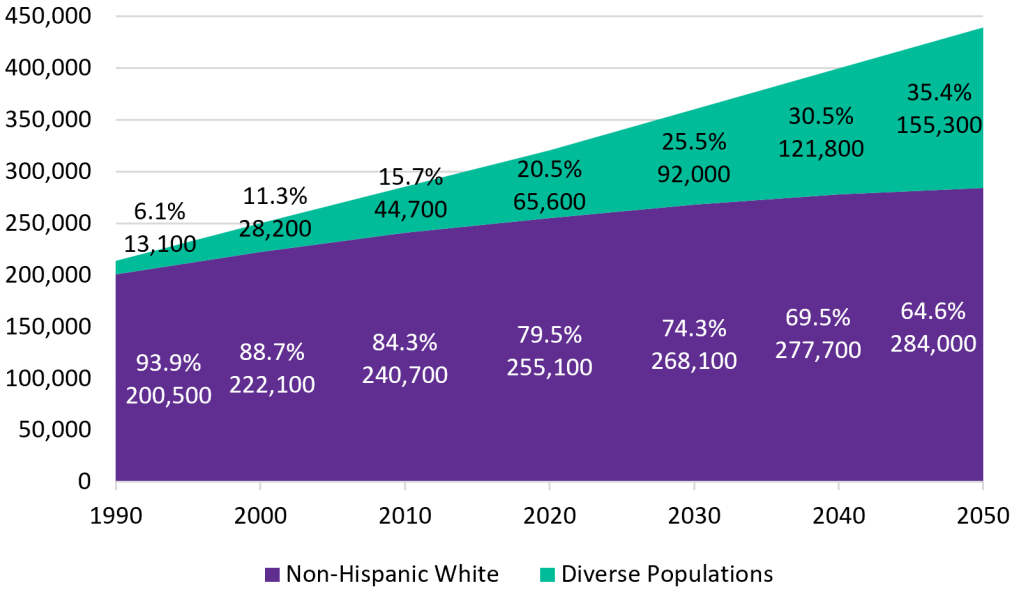
G12: History and Culture



Lincoln and Lancaster County will celebrate the community's history and diverse cultures and build upon the benefits they provide to civic health, economic vitality, and quality of life.

Preservation and enhancement of the many quality of life assets within the community continues. For a "good quality of life," a community has more than jobs, shelter, utilities and roads — there are numerous services, education, historic, natural, and cultural resources that are fundamental to enriching lives. As the population continues to become more diverse, the richness and variety of Lincoln and Lancaster County's cultural assets will enrich the quality of life for all those living here.

Figure G12.a:
Actual and Projected Population for Major Racial/Ethnic Groups, Lancaster County



UNO Center for Public Affairs Research

PlanForward embraces a growing, changing community, and the opportunities presented by the fundamental demographic changes currently occurring and expected to continue into the future. For example, Lincoln has the largest Yazidi community in North America, and Nebraska was the largest refugee resettlement per capita in 2016. Students in the Lincoln Public School system are more diverse than Lincoln as a whole. In 2024, LPS had 40.4 percent minority students, while Lincoln had 23.1 percent minority population. As these students grow up and have families of their own, Lincoln can expect an increased diversity in its racial and ethnic composition.

The community will experience further growth among existing racial and ethnic minority groups over the next 30 years. From less than 25,000 people in 2000, the number of minority residents in the County surged to almost 45,000 persons in 2010, and was 68,000 persons in 2020. It is expected that Lancaster County's minority community will grow to 155,000 persons by 2050, and will comprise roughly 1/3 of the overall population. The trend towards a more racially and ethnically diverse community is celebrated and emphasized across multiple policy areas in PlanForward.

The community's history and culture are discussed more in the Introduction section, and are reflected through historic buildings and sites throughout the county. These resources add to the desirable quality of life for current residents and should be protected for future generations. PlanForward encourages the continued use and maintenance of historic and cultural resources, including properties not formally designated as landmarks.

Policies Related to this Goal

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P24: Environmental Resource Protection

P34: Urban Design Standards

P36: Public Art

P37: Historic Preservation

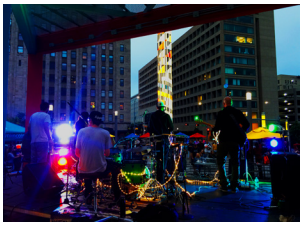
P38: State Capitol

P39: Community Space

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G13: Community Appearance



Lincoln and Lancaster County will have a high-quality physical environment that creates a strong sense of place and community pride.

The urban and the rural landscapes of Lancaster County produce a distinctive place, offering a sense of identity to visitors and especially to residents. It is worthwhile to plan for, protect, and strengthen this character as this community continues to grow and develop.

When successful, urban design makes a community more enjoyable for residents, more attractive to visitors, and more competitive in drawing new businesses and retaining existing ones. A truly sustainable community recognizes and builds on its heritage by fostering good urban design, creating a sense of place and uniqueness that supports a strong economy, values environmental assets, and promotes social engagement and interaction.

To achieve this goal, PlanForward addresses community appearance in a variety of topic areas, including:

- Design standards that promote a high-quality built environment.
- Preservation and re-use of historic structures, including both designated landmarks and non-designated buildings.
- Entry corridors that create a positive “first impression” of the community.
- Community spaces that celebrate local art, music and culture, and promote social interaction and understanding.
- Protection of significant views and vistas throughout the county.
- Well-built public buildings that are compatible with the surrounding environment.

Policies Related to this Goal

P2: Existing Neighborhoods

P5: Downtown

P24: Environmental Resource Protection

P34: Urban Design Standards

P35: Entry Corridors

P36: Public Art

P37: Historic Preservation

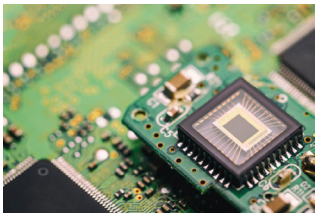
P38: State Capitol

P39: Community Space

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G14: Technology



Lincoln and Lancaster County will support equitable access to technological innovation in order to sustain a vibrant economy, improve City and County services, and improve civic networking.

Technology has and will continue to change the way we live, impacting our personal and professional lives. Technology is also continuously evolving which brings new opportunities and challenges – 3D printers are creating new housing opportunities, our appliances are now capable of speaking to each other, and driverless vehicle technology continues to advance. Technological trends will continue to be monitored in all aspects that impact our community. Partnerships will continue to play a significant role, and opportunities will be explored with local resources such as the University of Nebraska and private companies.

The efficient use and expanded access to public wireless resources are fundamental to Lincoln's future economic growth, global competitiveness, and technology equity among its community members. Congestion of the wireless spectrum and scarcities in both licensed and unlicensed bands must be addressed for continued innovation and investment growth. Access to wireless technology in our public spaces for use by residents, visitors, and event businesses has become an everyday expectation and necessity.

In Lancaster County, 88% of households have internet access through an internet subscription. Households with an income less than $20,000 have internet access through an internet subscription at a rate of 70.8%. The high percentage of residents with an internet subscription speaks to the need and importance of technology for our residents to fully participate in civic functions, employment opportunities, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

Table G14.a: Internet Access, Lancaster County

Total Households	134,126	
With Internet Subscription	124,712	93.0%
With no Internet	9,414	7.0%
HH Income <$20,000	13,665	
With Internet Subscription	11, 448	83.8%
With no Internet	2,217	16.2%
HH Income $20,000 - $74,999	53,572	
With Internet Subscription	48,842	91.2%
With no Internet	4,730	8.8%
HH Income $75,000 or more	66,889	
With Internet Subscription	64,422	96.3%
With no Internet	2,467	3.7%

American Community Survey 2019-2024

In 2015, the City of Lincoln partnered with Allo Communications to complete a fiber optic network, providing faster broadband speeds, including 1-gigabit service available to every home and business in Lincoln. The project was completed in 2018. The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County promote the integration of information technology throughout the community by their use of technologies in the business of local government. Examples of such activities include:

Public Internet Terminals: These terminals provide public access to the Internet for residents and visitors to Lancaster County. High speed lines and free access terminals have been placed in libraries, community centers, recreation centers, and senior centers.

City and County Websites: The City and County websites offer expanded opportunities to access government in the areas of employment, health and human services, planning and land development, general information assistance, and access to resources. The ability to conduct various government transactions online saves travel time and resources for citizens and government employees.

Advanced Audio and Video Equipment: An array of video equipment is used to broadcast local government meetings over a local cable channel and via the Internet.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS): City and County departments, in partnership with other agencies, have created an extensive system of digital geographic information that includes hundreds of layers of information on features such as natural resources, topographic features, land use, structures, floodplains, jurisdictional boundaries, and infrastructure. A broad assortment of digital imagery (i.e., photographs, permit and property information) is also included in this GIS information base.

Intelligent Transportation Systems: Information technology offers many opportunities for making better use of transportation facilities and services. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) use computers and digital technology to get the most out of the community's investment in roads and other transportation facilities.

Green Light Lincoln: The continued deployment of Green Light Lincoln has resulted in significant improvements to the overall traffic signal system, Key benefits of this initiative are wide reaching and include: reduce the number and severity of crashes; reduce travel times, delays, and stops; reduce vehicle emissions and pollutants; reduce fuel consumption for savings at the pump; smooth traffic flow and reduce driver frustration; and delay the need for major street widening projects.

Public Wi-Fi and Wireless Internet Access: The City will partner with private broadband carriers to install outdoor public Wi-Fi systems in public spaces. Exploration of a public Wi-Fi and wireless internet access program for the community should be evaluated for community need and potential costs associated with implementation.

Educational Internet Access: The City of Lincoln, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS), Lincoln Libraries, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and private broadband providers will partner to extend the LPS student internet access into every home and business connected to the Fiber to the Home project. The goal of the Educational Internet Access project is to ensure every student in Lincoln has access to safe and secure high-speed internet regardless of income.

Cloud-Based Public Infrastructure: Continued growth in Information Technology applications require the expansion of database storage infrastructure and cloud-based storage. The City and County will continue to migrate from on-premise to cloud-based storage and applications.

Policies Related to this Goal

P12: Economic Growth

P15: Infrastructure and Economic Development

P47: Civic Participation

P60: Technology

P69: Transit

P73: Advanced Mobility

P77: Transportation Funding

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Growth Indicators

G15: Transportation



Lincoln and Lancaster County will strive to achieve a safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation system that enhances the quality of life, livability, and economic vitality of the community.

A balanced transportation system that supports the community's needs and equitable outcomes must include maintenance of the aging infrastructure, efficiencies to allow people to move from place to place without congestion, and availability of a wide variety of safe mobility options such as walking, biking, transit, and driving. The transportation system should be thoughtfully designed to contribute to economic vitality of the region by integrating transit, vehicular, freight, air, nonmotorized, and rail modes with land use decisions. The transportation sector is a major contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; transportation decisions should reflect Lincoln and Lancaster County's stewardship of the environment. Specific transportation decisions should align with the City of Lincoln's goal to build a decarbonized and efficient transportation system, as stated in the City of Lincoln Climate Action Plan. Public funding, both locally and nationally, for transportation infrastructure is extremely tight. A successful transportation network comes from public, private, and nonprofit entities working together to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

The 2050 Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is one of the primary planning documents that guides the region's transportation investments to accomplish this goal. The LRTP outlines eight transportation goals which support the goal for transportation in the Comprehensive Plan.

Maintenance: A well-maintained transportation system.

Mobility and System Reliability: An efficient, reliable, and well-connected transportation system that leverages innovation and technology for moving people and freight.

Livability and Travel Choice: A multimodal system that provides travel options to support a more compact, livable urban environment.

Access and Opportunity: A multimodal transportation system that expands access to opportunities and enhances connections for communities with limited transportation options.

Safety and Security: A safe and secure transportation system.

Economic Vitality: A transportation system that supports economic vitality and sustainable growth for residents and businesses.



Environmental Sustainability: A transportation system that minimizes negative impacts on and strives to enhance the natural, cultural, and built environment.



Funding and Cost Effectiveness: Collaboration in funding transportation projects that maximizes user benefits and local funding, and embraces innovative funding approaches.

The eight goals developed for the 2050 LRTP are primarily aligned with national goals and federal planning factors. These goals are the foundation for performance measures, performance targets, policies, and projects described in the LRTP.

Policies Related to this Goal

P15: Infrastructure and Economic Development

P63: Transportation Access and Opportunity

P64: Transportation and the Future

P65: Complete Streets

P66: Transportation and Managing Growth

P67: Congestion Management

P68: Transportation and Economic Health

P69: Transit

P70: Active Transportation

P71: Public ROW and Access

P72: Freight

P73: Advanced Mobility

P74: Transportation Partnerships

P75: Safety

P76: Transportation Maintenance

P77: Transportation Funding

P78: Airport

Community Indicators Related to this Goal

Transportation Indicators